

The City of Mattoon has hired a landscape architect to design and bid the work on a renovation of Progress Square. Staff held a workshop earlier this month to generate input from area businesses and residents on the future look of the area. Design Perspectives, the landscape architects, will be spending the day, June 30, with staff and stakeholders to come up with a final plan so that work can commence later this year.



Progress Square is the parking lot at the southeast corner of 17<sup>th</sup> and Broadway. The Arts Council's celebrated mural featuring aspects of Mattoon faces this lot. City staff hopes this will be the beginning of a continued restoration of the downtown area.

City Administrator Sue McLaughlin says, "With the revitalization of the downtown area due to the TIF District and renovation of the Railroad Depot, this is another vital part of the puzzle. We hope that this will highlight the beautiful mural already in place and allow people to enjoy downtown even more."

The project is slated to cost about \$200,000, which will be completely funded by the Midtown TIF District. The City will be holding an open house at 7 pm at City Hall so that residents can review and comment on the proposed transformation.